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Large or small Farms—Which are the most profitable.

The answer to this question depends upon the conditions. We may divide the agricultural population into three classes: Those of limited or small capital; and a grade between, possessing a moderate but comfortable income. These definitions are not precise, but suggest the idea intended to be conveyed sufficiently for our purpose. Other conditions embrace locality, market, means of manuring, description of soil, and other attending circumstances.

We lay down the axiom, that in order to succeed well, everything should be well done. A farmer with large capital, possessing a knowledge of his business would engage extensively in it; and, as he could avail himself of all the best labor saving machines, of a division of labor, of the best modes of husbandry, of abundant manures and of all special manures, and, in short, of all the appliances of science, it follows that, with him a large farm would be the most profitable. But we need not dwell on this self-evident branch of our question.

There is a large class, possessed only of small capital, whose natural avocation is that of agriculture. Many of this class commit manifest errors. Their capital is small, but their hearts may be large; they aspire to responsible positions, and attempt too much. In a country where land is abundant, and readily procured on credit, a 100 acre farm, instead of 25 or 50 acres, is an alluring bait. With means only to cultivate and manage 25 acres, the remaining 75 are a dead weight.—The capital, or the interest paid instead, is annually extracted from the means required to improve and cultivate the 25 acres, and too often is the cause of utter failure, and most generally of years of toil and unrequited labor. Men of this class should commence with a small farm and stick to it, until they have so far increased their capital, in money and experience, that they can afford to take one step higher with success.

There are notable instances of great profits realized from cultivating a small farm well, which have been noticed in agricultural journals to which the reader can refer. It will be asy to reach the average given of an English farm, where they pay high rents and taxes. Wheat is given at 26 bush. per acre, barley at 40 bush. per acre, oats 60 to 80 bush. and hay 2 tons. The product of a 30 acre farm in Maine is given as follows: 700 bushels of potatoes, 80 bush. of barley, 25 bush. of beets, 15 bush. of wheat, 10 bush. of beans, 4 tons of mowed oats, 16 tons of hay, 40 bush. of corn, 20 bush. of carrots, 75 chickens and turkeys, a quantity of garden vegetables, 300 lbs. pork, 400 lbs. butter, 3 cows, 1 yoke of oxen, 2 heifers, 2 steers, 8 sheep and 4 pigs were kept. The product is valued at \$600.

Erasmus Littlejohn, of Middlebury, Mass., had a farm of 56 acres, of which we have the following statistics: Improved land 22 acres; unimproved, 12 acres, and 22 acres of woodland. Soil sandy and gravelly. His corn cost him 21 cents per bushel, hay \$4 per ton, and potatoes 22 cents per bushel. His net yearly profits rose from \$561 54 to \$810 92 in four years. He kept a daily account.

The farm of N. Hayward & Son, Monroe county, N. Y., contained 68 acres of improved land, and 10 acres of unimproved. Total receipts \$2,726; total expenses, \$1,470—net profits, \$1,256, or 18.48 per cent in one year.

Jos. Watson, of Clyde, N. Y., has kept the statistics of a 50 acre farm, showing the net proceeds of 45 acres, above all expenditures, to be \$399.48 in one year. This farm had no peculiar advantages over ordinary farms. It was not situated near to a city or a special market.

In another case, the products of a 50 acre farm amounted in value to \$1,445 in one year. The leading articles were 10 acres wheat, 35 bushels per acre; 6 acres apples, 200 bushels per acre; 5 acres corn, 90 bushels per acre; 2 acres potatoes 200 bushels per acre; 5 acres barley 40 bushels per acre; 5 acres oats, 50 bushels per acre, besides carrots, hay, pasture, &c.

These instances illustrate what can be done on a small farm. Let the reader contrast them with much larger ones around him, and ask the question, whether a small farm, well tilled in the hands of a man of moderate means, is not more profitable than a larger one would be! If a man's whole capital consists in labor alone, he should undertake only so much as he can do well; and so in every case according to the amount of capital. The first consideration should be the probable outlay required in the business, and then proportion the extent of the business according to the available means in labor, skill, and other capital.

There are many things connected with

this subject which force themselves on our attention, but the allotted space is already filled. We know experimentally that very mistaken notions exist in reference to the amount of capital required in successful farming operations. A man that is too poor to become a merchant will readily form an opinion that he is rich enough to turn farmer. Let him try the experiment. He will find that a successful farmer of fifty acres of land, requires more capital than a great many country merchants, driving a careful active business on moderate means and fair credit. We have before us a careful estimate of the outlays, for live stock, implements, seeds, food, and labor, needed the first year, for one hundred acres of improved land, and they amount to at least \$2,000. Estimates like this, and more especially experience, will wonderfully tend to increase the respect of great numbers of the free and sovereign people, for the useful and time-honored occupation of the tillers of the soil, well described as the "bone and sinew" of the land.

W. O. BUELL.

Perth County, of Lanark, C. W.

August.

Put on a good stout pair of leathern gloves, and declare a war of extermination against the thistles in and about your premises. It is said by some correct cultivators, that if the Canada thistle is cut in August, before its seed becomes ripe, it will die off in a very accommodating manner; because the stalk, which is hollow, which will fill with water, which will destroy the root.

A capital cultivator will make even his hogs labor for a livelihood, by throwing into their enclosure brakes, potatoes tops, weeds, loam, &c., which their swinehip will manufacture gratis into manure.

It is said if you cut bushes in the old moon in August, you will destroy them root and branch. We do not believe the moon will interfere in the matter, but believe August is the best time for cutting bushes, because, vegetation having come to a close for the season, the bushes will not so readily sprout again from the roots.

From the middle of August to the middle of September, is said to be the best time for sowing winter rye. By sowing early, you provide green food for sheep late in the fall and early in the spring, and by early sowing in the fall or last of summer, the roots of the grain take such firm and extensive hold of the soil that they will be less likely to be winter-killed.

In your garden, you will continue to gather the best specimens of seeds to propagate from, and will be careful not to let any weeds ripen their seeds. In this, as in most matters, an ounce of preventing is better than a pound of cure.—*Essential.*

The "Illinois State Journal" has the following account of one of the Western meetings, which very fairly stands as a representation for a hundred others:

"The Republicans of Coles and the adjoining counties held an impromptu meeting in Mattoon last Friday, the 10th which completely eclipsed the late Squatter demonstration held in that place, and caused the Sham Democracy to hide their diminished heads. It appears that the entire population of several counties emptied themselves into that thriving town for the purpose of testifying their devotion to the Union and the principles of the Republican party, which is about to take charge of the ship of State.—We can scarcely attempt to convey an idea of the numbers present without subjecting ourselves to the charge of romancing, yet we can assure our readers that there were assembled on this occasion more than forty acres of people and the demonstration is acknowledged upon all hands to be far more imposing in numbers and display than any meeting ever held in Eastern Illinois. Three stands for the speakers were erected in the spacious Fair Grounds adjacent to the town, and the crowd were electrified by the brilliant efforts of the Hon. Wm. Kellogg, the Hon. Owen Lovejoy, the Hon. S. A. Hurlbut, the Hon. Martin P. Sweet, the Rev. J. Ferre, and others. At sunset the crowd adjourned to the town, where they listened to speaking from Messrs. J. H. Matheny, Wright, Underwood, and others. The Wide-Awakes were present from Charleston, Paris, &c., and turned out with over 1,000 torches, which, together with fireworks, bonfires, &c., kept the town in a blaze until midnight. In the way of allegorical representations, banners, mottoes, and other paraphernalia incident to such occasions, the display was superb. Among the best things which we saw was a two story carriage containing a set of young ladies representing the States on the first floor, and a like set composed of smaller girls in the second story. This carriage was gorgeously decorated, and its novel and beautiful appearance was the admiration of the crowd. Another carriage conveyed a pyramid of young ladies, and made a fine show. An omnibus full of girls represented the different States, and upon a platform in the rear sat a little girl in black representing Kansas with the door closed on her. It would fill a column and more were we to enter into a full description. Suffice it to say that the Republicans of Eastern Illinois are awake and at work, confident of a glorious victory in November."

Mr. Lincoln's Abilities and Principles.

Letter from John B. Fry.

MY DEAR SIR: Duly appreciating the compliment you have paid me in urgently requesting that I would engage in the pending Presidential canvass, by making political addresses in favor of the election of Lincoln and Hamlin, I am nevertheless, constrained, for a reason which I will state to you to decline the acceptance of your flattering proposal.

Within the last week I have received eight invitations, from various sections of the country, similar to your own, and all of which I have been obliged to decline, much to my regret.

The truth is (and this is the reason I wish to assign) I have been for eight months last past, a great sufferer from vertigo, and I find that the slightest excitement I encounter aggravates my malady.

And yet I wish it to be understood by you, and by everybody, who have regard for my opinions, that I am enlisted heart and soul, for Lincoln and Hamlin. I have known them both long and well. Mr. Lincoln and myself were introduced to each other at Springfield, Ill., in February, 1846, by the late Col. John J. Hardin, formerly a representative in Congress from that district, and who subsequently fell at Buena Vista. At that early day, Col. Hardin said to me (and I have never forgotten the remark), "Lincoln is really the foremost man in our State, and if his merits should ever become properly known he will lead the nation."

I was in Washington during Mr. Lincoln's term in Congress, and venture to assert that the man (whether at the north or the South) who dares to charge him with being other than *Notional and Conservative* in character, purpose, and action is a base calumniator.

National! Let in the event of Lincoln's election, which I look upon as certain, the traitor, North or South, presume to raise a patriotic band aiming at a destruction of our glorious Union, and he goes up as "high as Haman."

Lincoln, I need not tell you my old and honored friend, is a patriot in every and the highest sense, and will punish treason (only give him the power), where ever he meets it.

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Historical Facts.

The tardiness with which mankind adopt improvements may be, in some degree, illustrated by the following facts, hastily thrown together:

Canal locks were invented in 1581, by engineers of Viterbo, in Italy. They were nearly a hundred years getting fairly into use in France, and about one hundred and fifty in crossing the British Channel.

At this time it was made felony, in several European states, to ride in wheel carriages.

The steam engine was invented, or rather, the principle of it discovered, by the Marquis of Worcester, as early as 1660. Few understood and none encouraged it. He died in great mortification. The honor was afterwards engrossed by Savary.

In 1765 the Earl of Stanhope applied the steam engine to propelling a vessel. A steambost was run twenty miles on the Sankey Canal, Liverpool, in 1797 and another on the Forth Clyde Canal, in 1801. A steambost trip was made on the Delaware as early as '91.

In 1807, when Robert Fulton was fitting up his first steambost at New York, respectable and gray-headed men pronounced him "a fool for his pains."

Oliver Evans went before committees of Legislatures, first in Pennsylvania, and then in Maryland, with a project of a steam carriage, as early as 1804. He asked a little aid to defray the expense. They could hardly be prevented from reporting in favor, not of steam-engines for carriages, but of a strait jacket for himself. Now almost all nations have had the sagacity and ingenuity to seize and utilize the precious idea.

When Peter the Great, in 1760 or thereabouts commenced a canal between the Walga and the Don, the Governors and Boyards of the country opposed it earnestly, thinking it impious to turn rivers out of channels which Heaven had assigned them.

When some Dutchmen proposed to make the river Manzanares navigable to the Tagus, and that to Lisbon, the Council said if it had been the will of God that the Rivers should be navigable, he would have made them so.

When Brinley, the great engineer, told a committee of Parliament, to whom Bridgewater's petition was referred, that canals were better than rivers, and would supersede them for the purpose of navigation, the committee were shocked, and asked him, "And pray, sir, what were the rivers made for?" "To feed the canals," was the answer.

Dr. Franklin surveyed the route of the Delaware and Chesapeake Canal at his own expense, in 1757.

Baron Napier surveyed the route of the Forth and Clyde Canal at his own expense, in 1761.

Both of these works were subsequently accomplished, but after great delay.

Dr. Zabdriel Boyalston introduced in ocalution for small pox into Boston, in 1721, and tried it first on his own son Thomas, and other members of the family; but such was the force of prejudice and unbelief that the other physicians gave a unanimous opinion against it; the municipal government prohibited its practice, and the populace would have torn him to pieces if he had not retired from the city.

Scraping up the Gold.

At a convention of clergymen, not long since, it was proposed by one of the members, after they had dined, that each should entertain the company with some remarks. Among the rest, one drew upon his fancy and related a dream. In his dream he went to heaven, and he described the golden streets, the river of life, &c. As he concluded, one of the divines, who was somewhat noted for his penuriousness and money saving habits, stepped up to the narrator and inquired joyously:

"Well, did you see anything of me in your dream?"

"Yes, I did."

"Indeed! what was I doing?"

"You were on your knees."

"Praying, was I?"

"No—scraping up the gold!"

How to Grow Peaches Every Year.

A correspondent of the *Ohio Cultivator* says: "Procure your trees grafted upon the wild plum stock. The tree partakes of the nature of the plum, being hardy, and will never winter kill, and putting out late in the Spring, will never be injured by the frost, and it is a certain preventive against the workings of the peach grub, while the natural life-time of the tree is larger than that of our own; so you may depend upon peaches every year, and for a long period of time, without the destructive and discouraging influences attending the growth of the common peach. They can be obtained at from fifty to seventy five cents per tree, and you had better pay five times that amount than not to obtain them, and be certain of peaches every year. Try it, and our word for it, you will be satisfied with the result."

An infernal machine, called the centrifugal gun, is on exhibition at Columbus, Ohio, which will throw five hundred balls a minute, with the force of an ordinary rifle, without the aid of powder or cap, by merely turning a crank like a coffee-mill.

Shameful Outrage in Texas.

The "Republic of Texas" was originally settled in good degree by fugitives from justice and absconding debtors.—And there is still a good deal of the old leaven left in that community, making it dangerous to attempt the collection of an old debt. The prejudice existing in Texas against anti-slavery men, affords a ready means for scoundrels to avail themselves of when they wish to cover up their own fraudulent practices. Witness the following narrative!

At a meeting recently held in Fairview, Randolph County, Indiana, Elder Solomon McKinney narrated his adventures in Texas, from which State he was expelled about a year ago. It appears that he left Iowa, three years ago and went to Texas to find a desirable residence. Having found a place where his services as a preacher were acceptable, he returned home and took his wife back with him to the South, proposing there to live. This occurred in May of 1859.

Before leaving Iowa for the last time, a neighbor requested Mr. McKinney to collect from one Sprowle, in Texas, a sum of money which he owed. After preaching for some time, the Elder one day received a visit from the debtor, Sprowle, and in the course of a friendly conversation the former spoke of the commission with which he had been charged.

Sprowle denied the debt, and appeared angry. His next step was to denounce Mr. McKinney as an Abolitionist. A Committee meeting was called, without the knowledge of the accused, and twenty-five or thirty citizens deliberated as to what they should do with him. A number of witnesses were examined, who declared that he was not an Abolitionist but a democrat, as he had always been. Then Sprowle was called on to give his testimony, which he willingly did, charging the Elder with being a changeling in religion. One Blunt dared to speak in favor of the minister, and he was at once denounced as an accomplice.

Mr. McKinney was then preaching a few miles away, and his congregation prepared a certificate to the effect that the charge of Abolitionism was quite false.—The editor of the paper in Dallas County was not allowed to publish this certificate, being threatened with the destruction of his property should he do so. A letter was sent to Mrs. McKinney, saying that her husband and Blunt were to be hanged within twenty-four hours, "six feet in the air."

Under these circumstances, the threatened men thought it expedient to leave the country. They accordingly started, after a sleepless night, during which they sat with loaded guns expecting an attack. Having travelled twelve miles, they were met by nine men, who robbed them and took the party—Mr. and Mrs. McKinney and Mr. Blunt—back to the county town. Mrs. McKinney was left at a private residence; the men were put into the Jail. At three o'clock the next morning the latter were taken out and tied to a tree. Then seven of the ruffians flogged them with a heavy cowhide whip, each fellow giving ten strokes. The punishment was very terrible, and the condition of the victims was most deplorable. After being thus beaten they were allowed to go on their journey, though they were left penniless.

We frequently read of Austrian despotism, and deplore the condition of the poor creatures who are compelled to submit to it. But the real truth is, there is no part of the civilized world where acts of the grossest tyranny over persons and property, are of more constant occurrence, or where liberty of speech is more remorselessly punished, than in the slaveholding states of the American Union.—The worst despotism that Europe contains is that which curses the kingdom of Naples; but bad and brutal as Neapolitan tyranny is, it is infinitely exceeded by the beastly ferocity of mob law which the slave interest always finds it easy to invoke when it wishes to torture, murder, or burn at the stake some unfortunate being whom it suspects of preferring liberty to slavery.

Countessfeit Gold.

The N. Y. Banks and the Sub-Treasury office in that city warn the public against the ingenious and very dangerous counterfeits of the ten dollar gold pieces which are circulated extensively, and almost defy detection, except by an expert. The genuine coin is opened, full one-half the gold taken out, and then filled with platinum or some other equally heavy substance, and then closed up; the coin itself, to all appearances, remaining the same in all respects, even to the specific weight. Specimens of this spurious coin are exhibited which would seem to defy detection by ordinary skill, or even the closest observation and handling, and yet the amount of pure gold left in a ten dollar piece is scarcely equal to \$4.50.

The gold dollar pieces have become a nuisance. The Journal of Commerce says that ten millions of them are in New York. A re-coinage of two millions into a larger denomination has been ordered, and the Journal hopes that not one more of them or of the nickel cent will be coined.

In a dispute between two men in New York this week, about two cents, one of them named O'Connor cut the throat of the other named Higgins with a butcher knife.

Here is an analysis of Mr. Douglas by a high member of the Democratic party—Gen. B. F. Butler of Massachusetts.—It was delivered at Lowell the other day:

"When the Democracy had carried the election (in 2852) for President with unequalled unanimity; when all parties had agreed to drop Slavery agitation; when between North and South the bonds of Union were knitting firmer and firmer; when the Democratic party were in a majority in Congress from North and South; when the opposition to the successful Administration of Gen. Pierce was either silenced or broken in fragments, and there was no hindrance to the country in her career of power and greatness, what was it, who was it, that changed all this!—Who was it that arrayed section against section, fanned into a blaze Abolition agitation; 'struck down, as if by magic,' to use the words of his Committee in their late address, the Democratic party at the North and armed brother against his brother's life on the plains of Kansas? The answer is the truth of God and history on my lips—Stephen A. Douglas! Grant the Missouri line was unconstitutional, as we may all admit. Yet it was a matter of no practical importance at that point of time, and in course of litigation between party and party it would have soon been declared by the Supreme Court and the agitation in Congress in consequence of its disturbance have been saved to the country.—What is the history of this repeal of the Missouri Compromise? Was its repeal the long thought of carefully scanned measure of most importance weighed deliberately in the mind of a judicious statesman? Far from it. The truth of its history is this: After Mr. Douglas had from his Committee reported a bill for the organization of the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska in the usual form of Territorial bills, and after, too, he had advocated the extension of the Missouri Compromise line to the Pacific, a Whig Senator from Kentucky remarked to him in substance: 'Why don't you, Douglas, report a bill for the repeal of the Missouri line? Such a measure would be supported by the South, and give you the lead of the Administration.' Douglas at once said: 'I will do it; and within forty-eight hours this measure of repeal was introduced as an amendment to the Kansas and Nebraska bill, uncalled for by the Southern Democracy, but which they were obliged to support, as it was right in itself, and was advocated by its author as a measure in their favor, which would open equally all the Territory of the country to the citizens of all the States for emigration with their property. A specious, but fallacious argument, because it is utterly impossible, from the very nature of slave property itself, that it should compete with the emigration from free States, into a country where free labor could be successfully carried on, and where the climate causes a suspension of agricultural labor for any considerable portion of the year. Still the measure was supported substantially by all Southern members of Congress, and was claimed by Douglas to be a boon to the South which he had given them. For this he was burned in effigy by the Republicans, for this he quarreled with the 3,000 ministers North, for this he claimed the support of the South in the Cincinnati Convention in 1856, on his second attempt to be President by a bid for Southern support. The Administration of President Pierce having been brought into the support of this measure, and being conducted upon a strictly constitutional basis, commanded the respect of Southern statesmen, and a growing distrust of Douglas prevented his receiving the votes in that Convention which he coveted, and they were then given to Mr. Pierce. The entire prostration of the Democratic party North, however, because of the evils which flowed from the Kansas bill, as plagues from Pandora's box, made Mr. Buchanan a necessity, and he was nominated."

Few persons imagine the extent of trade in eriooline ware. For about three years past, the consumption of wire by the eriooline workers in this country has not been far from one hundred tons per week. The wire is of steel, and the price has ranged from fifteen to thirty cents per pound. At the average—twenty-two cents—the yearly consumption amounts to \$2,464,000. A few months since, the orders to first hands greatly diminished, and fears were apprehended by the wire-makers that the harvest was over. But the lull was caused by an overstock in the hands of eriooline makers, who had ordered too freely. At present the demand is as active as ever, and prices are advancing. The ladies will be surprised to know how much this part of their dress costs in the aggregate, and think what a weight they carry.

A WESTERN EDITOR, in commenting upon the present condition of the double-headed Democracy, thus paraphrases Watts:

"Lol on a narrow neck of land, Between two rival chiefs they stand, And cast a wishful eye."

"Why don't you wash the bottom of your feet, Johnny?" asked his grandmother of a boy who was performing the operation before retiring at night.

"Why, granny, you doesn't think I'm going to stand up in bed, does ye?" replied Johnny.